

The Times-DiPATCH

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THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1911.

THE OUTLOOK IN WASHINGTON.

Congress is ready for work. Champ Clark has been elected Speaker. All the committees have been appointed as agreed upon in the Democratic caucus. There are 127 new members in the House, of whom 51 are Democrats, 45 are Republicans and 1 is a Socialist. There are 228 Democrats, 160 Republicans and 1 Socialist in the Senate. The Democrats have a clean majority of 68. In the Senate there are 17 new Senators, 12 Democrats and 5 Republicans. There are 41 Democratic Senators and 50 Republican Senators. The Republicans now have a majority of 9 in the Senate. When the Senator from Colorado is elected, the Republicans will have a majority of 5. There are insurgents in both Houses, more of them in the Senate than in the House, enough at them, in fact, to make the political strength of the Senate about equally divided between the two parties. We do not look, however, for much aid and comfort from the insurgent Senators for the Democratic side in close contests, as our observation has been that very little confidence is to be placed in this class of politicians and lawmakers. In the present case the insurgent Senators seem to be influenced more by a desire to embarrass their own Administration than to promote Democratic policies, to Mexicanize the situation after the manner of Madero, who has sworn that he will not quit fighting until Diaz throw out the last election in our neighboring Republic and step down and out.

We do not know what the Senate will do at the present session, but every one knows that the House has made a very good start. Champ Clark is far better looking than "Old Joe" Cannon—even the North Carolinian from the Danville District will concede that much, and if he will expel the Presidential bee from his bonnet and devote himself entirely to the duties of his office, he will make a good record as Speaker. His address on assuming office was creditable and particularly the sentiment with which he closed his remarks to the effect that the big aisle separating the Democrats from the Republicans is "the line of demarcation between us as political partisans, but not as American citizens or American representatives—he serves his party best who serves his country best."

Mr. Clark's summary of the work the Democrats should do is, generally speaking, exactly what they ought to do—honestly and intelligently revise the tariff downward; make such changes in the rules governing the conduct of the House as will result in the more thorough and intelligent consideration of all measures affecting the public good; insist upon economy in the public expenses, so that all appropriations shall be reduced to the needs of the Government, economically and effectively administered; publicity of campaign contributions and disbursements before elections, and the admission of both Arizona and New Mexico to Statehood. These are all worthy and necessary things to be done, but we must object to the speaker's demand that a resolution shall be passed submitting to the States a constitutional amendment providing for the election of Senators by popular vote. It is not necessary, it is not in harmony with the spirit of our American institutions, it would not strengthen popular government, it would be unfair to the States having large populations, and destroy utterly the character of the Senate. Instead of being sent to the Senate, as Mr. Clark advises, "by the unanimous vote of the House," it should be defeated by the unanimous vote of the House. That, of course, is too much to expect, even to hope and pray for, but when the resolution reaches the Senate it should there be given the coup de grace, for the sake of the country and its institutions.

President Taft sent a special message to the Congress yesterday advising that body why it was called together in extraordinary session. The message is very short and directly to the point. It relates to only one subject, the reciprocity treaty with Canada, which he hopes Congress will make effective. The Democrats have approved it, they passed it at the last session of Congress, they will vote for it now. How it will fare in the Senate, no one can tell. It was defeated in that body at the last session by altogether indigenous means, and the Republicans who are left in the Senate are tricky enough and politically dishonest enough to again oppose it, and thus destroy the only really worthy effort a Republican Administration has ever made to give the people of the country a chance for their lives.

The world is watching the Democrats at Washington. Mr. Clark and the other leaders of the party know that the people were only making an experiment in returning the Democrats to power in the House, that in two years there will be another election for Congressmen, and that the result of the Congress elected in 1912 will depend

altogether on what the Democrats shall do at the present extra session and at the regular session next December. One of the most disquieting reports from Washington is that Mr. Bryan is very much in evidence, and that is enough to make the Democratic party feel the least bit creepy, and the Republicans to hope for another chance. If he would only let them alone, old Bryan would only let them alone, just for a little while.

GOOD FAITH WITH THE PARTY.

In the opinion of the Baltimore Sun "it is no use assigning reasons at this time for the result" of the primary election in Baltimore on Tuesday, and then it gets ugly to the extent of saying, "It is one thing to capture a party primary and another thing to put the candidate through in the general election." From which it would appear that the Sunpaper has almost made up its mind to keep up the fight it lost at the primary election about the general election is held in about four weeks. We are told that "every Democratic politician in Baltimore was enlisted with the machine"; that an opposition "there was a complete consolidation of the forces opposed to non-political government."

We do not know how it will turn out finally. Nobody does, but as the Sun and the people who go with it—and it is sometimes a pretty safe leader in political matters—went into the primary as Democrats, it looks to us as if they should stand by their party at the general election. Good faith, it seems to us, requires this much. Besides, the Baltimore-American, which represents the opposition, very ably, of course, protests against the appeals to passion, which were made in the primary contest, holding that the violence and recklessness of the abuse in this campaign "was an offense to public candor," "an affront to public intelligence." The American is in favor of the election of E. Clay Timanus, and its support ought to be sufficient to defeat him in a Democratic town like Baltimore. Nothing is to be gained, in our opinion, for party harmony or for good government by disputing at the general election the decision of the people at the primary.

BEFORE AND AFTER.

On Tuesday, the day of the election in Chicago, the Tribune warned the people of that town that they were to make "a momentous decision." It is not merely a decision between two men, it is a decision between two systems, it is a choice between going forward and going back.

That reads well at this distance, it appears to be impressive, but the people of Chicago did not seem to care two cents about it, and voted as many times as they could against the policies and candidates of the Tribune. We venture to say that it will not be three months—we shall be surprised if it is more than three days—before the Tribune will be saying that the prosperity of Chicago was never so great and its people never so happy and contented with their estate.

"Going back?" Not a bit of it. "Going forward?" All the time, whether it be Harrison or Merriam; but we declare that the Tribune ought to quit telling stories, even for the purpose of effecting admittedly good results. If it do not change its habit, after awhile nobody will believe anything it says.

AGAINST THE FEE SYSTEM.

The Memphis News-Scholar has been and is making a vigorous fight on the fee system, which robs the people of Tennessee as well as the people of Virginia of thousands of dollars every year. Our contemporary has lately taken a poll of the Tennessee newspapers, which shows a strong sentiment in favor of abolishing the fee system of compensation for county officials and substituting stated salaries therefor. Papers in one-third of the counties of the State were heard from, and they stand about 2 to 1 against the system.

Conditions in Tennessee are very similar to those obtaining in Virginia. In our sister State some clerks are receiving \$1,000 too much; sheriffs are getting about \$1,200 more than they are entitled to equitably; and so on through the various offices. It is estimated that if the salary system were to replace the fee system, there would be a saving to Tennessee of "hundreds of thousands of dollars."

No wonder the State of Virginia is having to economize, when it has these leeches fattening themselves out of the State treasury. When our legislators shake themselves free from the clutches of petty local bosses and throw down the gauntlet at the courthouse rings, then, and not until then, shall we have better financial conditions throughout the Commonwealth.

MUST PUT UP OR SHUT UP.

After working for about three weeks, the twelve committees charged with obtaining the subscription of \$150,000 for the building of a railroad to the Northern Neck have succeeded in getting about one-third of the amount necessary to assure the construction of the line. The officers of the Chamber of Commerce, which has put itself behind the undertaking, are hopeful that their efforts will not fail, and are pegging away from day to day. They have done and are doing their whole duty, more than could reasonably be expected of them—neglect of their own private business affairs, sacrifice of their time and patience, and the averted glances of their prosperous neighbors as they put out the canvassers until they can "have time to think it over." It might not be a bad idea for the Chamber of Commerce to print the list of subscribers from day to day in all the papers, so that the community will be able to tell "who's who" in this sincere effort

to enlarge the opportunities of Richmond.

Down in the little town of Charlotte, North Carolina—a place with only about one-sixth the population of Richmond—only a few weeks ago some of the progressive men got together and subscribed \$300,000 to build a belt railroad for the improvement of the business of the town. Some of them will never get a cent of their money back in direct dividends, but all of them will get it back in the general prosperity of the town, and in the satisfaction of having done something for its development. Here we are in Richmond, with our banks fairly bursting with deposits and business booming all along the line, spending weeks in so far almost fruitless endeavor to raise \$150,000 to build a railroad into a new country, where there is not now a single mile of railroad track, and a country that contains seventy thousand people anxious to trade with Richmond. If the dry bones here cannot be stirred into life by such prospects as the building of this railroad hold out of permanent good to the community, it would be just as well for the Chamber of Commerce to put up the shutters and go out of business.

THE COLOR LINE IN THE ARMY.

Our brave soldiers down on the Mexican frontier are having a touch of real life. One day they are fairly stewing in their own fat and twenty-four hours later they are experiencing some of the excruciating agonies endured by Dr. Cook as he toiled on through snow and ice to the top of the earth. Suffocating with dust today, they comfort themselves with the recollection of how they wallowed in mud yesterday. With their tongues hanging out one minute with the hope of catching a breath of air, the next with their tents blown down about their heads, so uncertain are the elements in which they move. But they are enduring their hardship like good soldiers, and, with the exception of the Ninth Cavalry, they are all being having with credit to the country.

The Ninth Cavalry is a negro regiment attached to the division camp at San Antonio. The street cars of San Antonio are of the "Jim Crow" type, and under regulations prescribed by the city authorities of that place the conductors are required to have negroes sit in the seats reserved for them. "The negro troopers have resented this 'discrimination' and have made their resentment known by tearing down the signs in the cars and by assaulting the conductors and beating them severely. The Mayor went to Major Macomb, who commands the regiment, laid the facts before him and demanded that the colored troopers be required to obey the laws so long as they remained in the city. Major Macomb assured him that he would do the best he could; but admitted that "when men went into the town on pass and filled up on liquor and seized on any pretext for trouble it was impossible to prevent rows such as were complained of by the city authorities." That was not a very creditable position for the commander of the regiment to take, and the case was appealed to the Commander in Chief at Washington, who acted with splendid courage and promptness.

According to Washington dispatches to the New York Times, the President sent for General Wood and directed that orders be issued relieving the Ninth Cavalry from further service in the divisional brigade at San Antonio, and be assigned to duty "patrolling the Mexican border as far out in the desert as possible, and necessarily away from cities and towns where they might have opportunity to make trouble with the citizens of the country." Representative Garner, of Texas, laid the matter before the President, and informed him that he intended to introduce at this session of Congress a bill repealing the law of 1872, providing for the organization of four regiments of colored troops, two of cavalry and two of infantry, "and so give the President authority to disband any colored regiment that made itself liable to discipline by disorderly and violent conduct." The President is said to have expressed satisfaction at the suggestion, "and joined in the belief that such action by Congress would at least have a wholesome moral effect upon the colored soldiers and serve to make them observe the laws of the sections where they may be sent on duty."

The President is entirely right, although the New York Evening Post protests that the ordering of the negro cavalry to patrol duty on the Mexican border "will still further alienate from him the regard of the colored people." We don't believe it will do anything of the sort when the colored people understand that the colored soldiers made all the trouble for themselves by lawless and violent conduct; but, even if it should alienate from him the regard of every negro in the country, Mr. Taft has only done his duty, and there will be a hundred white men to take the place of every lawlessly inclined negro who shall turn against him on this account. There is nothing, however, that so stirs the indignation of our contemporaries as a drop of negro blood, notwithstanding that with all its violent and unnatural preaching it has never done a single negro in this country the least practical service or helped him to better conditions.

"However inexcusable the offence," it says, "it is an outrage and a scandal that men wearing the uniform of the United States army should be set apart from their fellows in street and railway cars because of the color of their skins." But they are not; the law requires that they shall keep with their fellows and not go with the other fellows. The other fellows are not allowed to go with them; they must keep in the seats assigned to

them, and if they should take seats reserved for the negroes they would be requested to sit in their own seats, and that, too, because of the color of their skins. Major Macomb, who commands the negro cavalry, would not be allowed by the law to sit in the seats set apart for the negroes, and he would not think for a moment of trespassing upon their preserves. Why should he be excluded from the seats of the negroes, except for the color of his skin?

Why should there be four negro regiments in the army, except for the color of their skins? Is it an outrage and a scandal to the uniform of the United States army that the negro regiments should be composed exclusively of negroes? The United States has drawn the color line in the army and the negro soldiers are perfectly content with the arrangement and do not hesitate to wear the uniform because it has been outraged and scandalized by requiring them to serve with their fellows. Such organization of their commands has not affected their fighting efficiency, as we are assured it was this same Ninth Cavalry that saved Mr. Roosevelt's Rough Riders at Santiago, and the Seventh Cavalry from annihilation at Pine Ridge in 1891. The negro soldiers do not object to associating with each other in their regular business of being soldiers, why should they object, or any of their fool white friends object, to their association in street and railway cars?

Mr. Taft is right in ordering the Ninth Cavalry where it can render service to the country without disgrace to the uniform, and his timely and really generous concern for the colored troopers will be appreciated by every real negro in the country, and by all thoughtful white men as well.

Italy to furnish her quota of dreadnaughts, twelve destroyers and three scouts, much more difficult than it would be for the United States. The international naval police force might prove too serious a burden for some of the countries involved.

GOVERNOR.

The Hartford Times says that "one of the ablest Senators the Democracy ever had was Arthur P. Gorman, of Maryland." It only hopes that his near namesake, Senator O'Gorman, of New York, will prove to be as able as the almost forgotten statesman from Maryland. While Senator Gorman was alive he was under almost constant fire from the lumber-jacks of his own party and from the opposition, of course. We did not like some things he did. We thought he was not quite as loyal to the Democratic administration when Mr. Cleveland was in office as he should have been, but we never had the least doubt of the integrity of his purposes or the strength of his convictions. If he had succeeded only in the defeat of the force bill legislation, which he did, he would deserve to be held in everlasting remembrance by the people of the South. We did not like his position on the tariff. We censured him at times severely for his apparent disposition to make too much of the machine, but we never doubted his courage or sincerity. We might very well wish for Senator O'Gorman, of New York, the same degree of loyal service to the Democratic party and to the country that was rendered by the almost forgotten Senator from Maryland.

Governor Foss, of Massachusetts, has appointed Robert E. Green, formerly of Westmoreland County, a major on his staff. Virginians make the best members of a gubernatorial staff anywhere.

THE BOYS' EXPOSITION.

Cleveland, Ohio, enjoys the distinction of having an annual boys exposition. The title is self-explanatory. The purpose of the exhibition is to give the boys of the whole city a chance to show their ability in directions which "grip thought, imagination and activity throughout boyhood years." Any lad under nineteen who makes things, can write or speak, who trains anything from pets up, may exhibit on this occasion.

Handwork, such as furniture making, wood-turning and carving, metal work, electrical apparatus, mechanical drawing, printing, designing, photography and other kindred crafts form an important part of the exposition. Hobbies are likewise exhibited—collections of postage stamps, coins, buttons or post cards. A boy may bring his pets, take personal charge of them and delight himself and others with their tricks. There are contests—vocal and instrumental music, whistling, original stories, orations, poems, shorthand, typewriting, gymnastics and costumes.

Last year there were some interesting exhibits—a wireless telegraph outfit made by a fifteen-year-old boy, a violin constructed from a cigar box, a broomstick and one string, upon which the inventor played several tunes. There were pen and ink drawings and oil paintings, some of which showed genuine talent. Parents and relatives were tremendously delighted to see what their small boys had done.

The idea is excellent. By such an exhibit, latent ability is brought out, initiative is encouraged, and sound ambition is inculcated. The idea should be followed generally.

UNFOUNDED.

One of the correspondents of the Fredericksburg Free Lance has written to that paper, asserting that he learned in Philadelphia that Mrs. Abraham Lincoln was a Southern sympathizer and kept General Lee and the Confederate authorities posted every day as to the actions of the Union cabinet and administration.

No historical basis can be assigned for such a statement, and the story should not go any further. There is no truth in it. Mrs. Lincoln was a Kentucky woman and she was not over strong mentally, but she did not have any communication with the Confederate authorities. She was not disloyal to her husband or to the government of which he was the head. She was a good wife and true, and though she must have often thought tenderly of her kinsmen who were fighting for the Stars and Bars in her old home, she did not break faith with her husband.

AN INTERNATIONAL POLICE.

Captain Thomas W. Kinkaid proposes in the March issue of the Naval Institute Proceedings that the twelve greatest nations of the world provide a joint fleet consisting of 141 first-class battleships, 141 destroyers and 36 scout cruisers to enforce the decisions of a permanent international arbitration court. Such a court has been suggested many times, perhaps the most feasible plan being that of former Governor A. J. Montague, who would establish a court for international arbitration fashioned after the Supreme Court of the United States.

However, the international situation has not yet reached that point where the lion and the lamb can lie down together. The solution offered by Captain Kinkaid is too simple for so complicated a situation. His idea would necessitate the cessation of construction of dreadnaughts by Great Britain and the increase in battleship building by the other eleven nations which would be involved in this international police force.

The United States has 14,000 miles of coast line. It could be compelled into obedience much more easily by the police fleet than could Germany, with its few hundred miles of coast. The fleet might coerce Great Britain by stopping sea-borne traffic to and from her coasts.

It would be a severe hardship on

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Strange justice is still being doled out in Houston, Texas. Albert Snyder of that town failed to pay a bill recently, and so a judgment having been obtained against him, the constables levied on his two artificial legs and held them as security. Snyder had to go to bed to await the decision of the court. He summoned as witnesses four one-legged women and three one-eyed men.

There were three biennial township elections in Nassau County, New York, on Tuesday. In Oyster Bay Township, it is worth noting, the Democratic plurality was 165. The fact is sufficient. Everybody knows who lives at Oyster Bay, and what his politics is. But never mind, he is coming back, and then, oh, then!

The work goes bravely on. Last Monday there was an election in the town of Hunnewell, Kansas. There were two candidates for the office of Mayor—Mrs. Ella Wilson and Mr. O. N. Akers. When the votes were counted it was found that each had received the same number of ballots, and then, with that chivalrous disposition which has always distinguished the men of Kansas, the judges of the election declared for Mrs. Wilson, and she is now the Mayor of Hunnewell. There is only one plank in her platform, and that is "Clean Up Hunnewell." We wish her great success in her mission, and as the first step towards the success of the purpose she has in view, we would suggest that she clean out all the voters of the town who cast their ballots for Akers.

Gaillard Hunt, of the Library of Congress, spent a day or so in the State Library at Raleigh last week and was very much impressed by the extent of the archives there preserved, and with their excellent arrangement and preservation. The collection at Raleigh is one of the most valuable in the country, and the people of North Carolina deserve the greatest credit for collecting and preserving the records of their most remarkable and honorable beginnings and history. We are sure of one thing, that Mr. Hunt, hunt he ever so diligently, could not have found any record in the collection at Raleigh to sustain the contention of the people of Charlotte that the first Declaration of American Independence was made in that State.

Says the Montgomery Advertiser: "Alabama has a Richmond, but unlike Virginia's is portable." Thank you, gracious for that. We do not know who he is, never heard of him before, but we could understand the situation in Alabama better if the Advertiser had said that he was portable.

Mr. Richard Holmes has just lived long enough to complete the work which he was ordered to do by Edward VII. a few months before his death, that is to say, to write a full and really authoritative account of his life and reign, on the same lines as the life of Queen Victoria." When Edward VII. died, Richard was instructed by King George to complete the task, and it will remain as a lasting memorial not only of his late sovereign, but also of his own intellect and devotion to the reigning house.

Sir Richard was particularly well fitted for the task. For not only was he in close touch with Edward VII. for a period of some forty years, but moreover, he was from 1870 until 1907 Librarian of Windsor Castle, in the library of which are preserved some 200,000 books, many of them of priceless historic and artistic value, as well as most of the private archives of the previous kings and queens of England, as for instance, all the correspondence of King Edward and of Queen Victoria, and all the correspondence and memoranda with members of the royal family, and abroad, and with their ministers during the near four-score years covered by his respective reigns.

The voluminous character of this correspondence can best be appreciated

Daily Queries and Answers

To Keep Grass Off Tennis Courts.
 In answer to your question for suggestions to keep grass from growing on a tennis court, I would say that if your correspondent will cover the court with strips of old carpet matting, especially in hot weather, that the grass will be killed and seed will not germinate.
 SERUM.

Chairman.
 Which is the plural of chairman, "chairmen" or "chairs"? As a suggestion, the University of Virginia pitcher, playing professional ball? If so, W. M. READER.

Last Saturday in January, 1890.
 Upon what day of the month did the last Saturday in January, 1899, fall?
 W. M.

The Elector.
 Which is the elector in State or county election, the man elected or the voters who elected him?
 The elector is the man who elects.

Matrimonial Bureaus.
 1. Is it lawful to make false representations in them?
 2. Could persons who do so be prosecuted, and upon what grounds?
 3. Could the manager of such an institution not be prosecuted for wrecking a home?
 1. Yes.
 2. Yes.
 3. This depends on the sort of representation made.
 4. Yes.

Livery Stable at Falling Creek.
 Please tell me if there is a livery stable in Falling Creek, and, if there is, kindly give its name and, if not, what is the nearest livery stable to Falling Creek, Va.?
 We do not possess this information.

Height of Washington Monument.
 What is the height of the Washington Monument?
 Five hundred and fifty-five feet and five and one-eighth inches.
 E. G. A. READER.

To Go On the Stage.
 Who could I address for information relative to entering the stage?
 LOUISE EVANS.
 We do not give out any information of this sort.

TALENTED THIRDS OF HOUSE OF LORDS

BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENAY.

WHILE making his countrymen are disposed to question the capacities of Richard Haldane, the Secretary of State for War, as an army reformer, and as a Minister of the Crown, there is no doubt that through his connection to the peerage as Viscount Haldane, Lord Haldane, the House of Lords gains a most gifted and talented addition. Long before Lord Haldane achieved note as the head of the British War Department, he was known in legal circles as a very successful lawyer, and in the scientific world, both at home and abroad, as a savant and philosopher. He graduated with honors from Gottingen, and from the University of Edinburgh, is a master of the problems of Kant, Hegel, and Schopenhauer, and he has translated from German into English, and is the author of "Essays in 'Pathway to Reality' and of the 'History of Philosophy'." Lord Haldane comes from a family of Haldanes of Glenegles in Perthshire, the grandson and grandnephew of the brothers Haldane, whose names are remembered for their evangelized work. In 1296 his ancestor, Sir John Haldane, of Glenegles, was one of the barons who swore fealty to Edward I. of England. Sir John Haldane, of Glenegles, was Lord and ambassador of King James III. of Scotland to Denmark. Numerous members of the family represented Perthshire in the Scottish Parliament prior to 1700, and since then there have been a whole batch of Haldanes in the House of Commons of Westminster.

Viscount Haldane, who in addition to his perfect mastery of German is equally at home in French, is married and lives with his sister, Miss Elizabeth Haldane, who, by the way, has published a translation of Hegel's "History of Philosophy." He is a member of the Arbitration Board of the Department of Commerce, the full designation of which is the Board of Trade.

Although the Grandduke Nicholas Constantinevitch, brother of Queen Alexandra of Greece, is set down in the Almanach de Gotha for 1910 as a resident at Tashkent, in Trans-Caspia, yet he is at the present moment living in London, and is an incurable invalid on the shores of the Crimea, far from Livadia, and the story recently published in a number of English newspapers, that he is leading a very happy life with his wife and children in London, is a mere fancy. This tale knows little about the matter is shown by the fact that he ascribes to himself the alleged exile at Tashkent to his "admiral's wife," adding that the real causes of the banishment have "never been authentically explained."

Yet every one of the older generation who is in touch with Russian social life, or with St. Petersburg society, knows that the Grandduke, well that if the grandduke was banished to Tashkent by Emperor Alexander II., by his own wife, because he had been led by his misadventure, known in his native city of Philadelphia as Mrs. Blackford, and restrained as "Mrs. Lear," to steal not only his mother's jewels, but also some of the jewels belonging to the Imperial Chapel. It was for this he was banished, and he was regarded as a most impious sacrilege, and sent off to Tashkent under strong escort. Fanny Lear's effects, as collected by the police, the jewels recovered, as well as a number of extremely comical papers, affecting the grandduke and the Imperial family, were found in her possession. For a time Alexander II. wavered as to whether he should banish the party to the grandduke's theft. But, finally, it was decided to endeavor to bring the scandal, by refraining from her criminal proceedings, and she was merely expelled by the police from Russia. Eugene Schuyler, at that time Chargé d'affaires of the United States at St. Petersburg, thought it necessary to interfere in her behalf, and to espouse her cause, in a rather prompt manner, affecting the grandduke and the Imperial family, and in much animosity in Russia. In connection therewith that his remaining in the country became impossible, and he was transferred elsewhere.

Sir Richard Holmes has just lived long enough to complete the work which he was ordered to do by Edward VII. a few months before his death, that is to say, to write a full and really authoritative account of his life and reign, on the same lines as the life of Queen Victoria." When Edward VII. died, Richard was instructed by King George to complete the task, and it will remain as a lasting memorial not only of his late sovereign, but also of his own intellect and devotion to the reigning house.

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The voluminous character of this correspondence can best be appreciated

but perhaps some subscriber will send it to us for you.

Cook Book.
 Will you give me the publisher's name of the Louisville Cook Book?
 COOK.
 Possibly you could order it through a book seller.

Tulane's Colors.
 What is Tulane University's colors?
 ALICE G. MONCURE.
 Olive and gold.

American Guild of Piano Tuners.
 Where is the nearest branch of the American Guild of Piano Tuners?
 Give me what information you can relative to joining this American Guild of Piano Tuners.
 Respectfully,
 PIANO TUNER.

You can get full information as to these questions by writing to Musical America, Madison Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street, New York.

"Higher Culture in Disce."
 Will you publish or send me the piece entitled "Higher Culture in Disce?"
 We cannot send or publish questions in connection with this department.

Election Clerk.
 Can a man who is not a qualified voter act as clerk in election? In other words, if he is twenty-one years of age and is competent, can he act as a clerk?
 Yes.
 A. B. C. A. READER.

Height of Washington Monument.
 What is the height of the Washington Monument?
 Five hundred and fifty-five feet and five and one-eighth inches.
 E. G. A. READER.

To Go On the Stage.
 Who could I address for information relative to entering the stage?
 LOUISE EVANS.
 We do not give out any information of this sort.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Against the Hobbie Skirt.
 To the Editor of The Times-DiPATCH:—I was delighted to see in yesterday's Times-DiPATCH that some one has taken up the cudgel against the hobbie skirt. I am sure your correspondent voiced the feelings of many women who respect themselves and are unwilling to follow a senseless fashion set by the demure "Paris" to emphasize the curves and lines of the "human form" for base purposes. It is senseless for women of taste and refinement to be led astray by making themselves ridiculous, as many are, who try to step on a street car or to go upstairs in a hobbie skirt. It is devoid of all beauty, grace or elegance, and should be tabooed by all ladies. Because an absurd fashion originates in Paris is no reason why sensible, self-respecting American women should follow it.

W. Richmond.

Faith.
 "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee."—Psalm iv. 22.
 Child of My love, lean hard.
 Let Me feel the pressure of thy care.
 Know thy burden, child, I shaped it.
 Poised it, and made it my own hand; made no proportion.
 In its weight to thine unaided strength.
 For as I laid it on I said,
 "I shall be near, and while she leans on Me
 This burden shall be Mine, not hers.
 So shall I keep my child within the fold
 Of My own love." Here lay it down,
 Now fear
 To import it on a shoulder which upholds
 The government of worlds. Yet closer come.
 Thou art not near enough: I would embrace thy care.
 So I might feel My child reposing on My breast.
 Thou lovest Me, I believe it—Doubt not then.
 But loving Me, lean hard.

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